

# Natural for DB2 - Overview

With the Natural interface to DB2, a Natural user can access data in a DB2 database. Natural for DB2 is supported under Com-plete, CICS, IMS/TM, batch mode, and TSO.

In general, there is no difference between using Natural with DB2 and using it with Adabas, VSAM or DL/I. The Natural interface to DB2 allows Natural programs to access DB2 data, using the same Natural DML statements that are available for Adabas, VSAM, and DL/I. Therefore, programs written for DB2 tables can also be used to access Adabas, VSAM, or DL/I databases. In addition, Natural SQL statements are available.

All operations requiring interaction with DB2 are performed by the Natural interface module.

Natural Version 4.1 or above is required for Version 4.1 of Natural for DB2.











**Note:**

The term "file server" used in this documentation only refers to the Natural file server for DB2.

**Related Documentation**

For information on logging SQL statements contained in a Natural program, refer to DBLOG Utility in the Natural Utilities documentation.

This documentation covers:

-  **General Information** Information on how to access DB2 tables, on the integration with Software AG's Data Dictionary Predict, and on error messages related to DB2
-  **Installing Natural for DB2** Installation of the Natural interface to DB2 and description of the Natural for DB2 parameter module.
-  **Natural Tools for DB2** Various utilities and commands to:
  - maintain application plans and packages
  - maintain the DB2 catalog
  - define and list stored procedures
  - generate and issue interactive SQL statements
  - retrieve data from system tables
  - display and modify environment settings
  - list and explain plan tables
  - display file server statistics
  - issuing DB2 commands from Natural
  - display and explain generated SQL statements
  - display Natural programs that access DB2
-  **DDM Generation** Generation of Natural data definition modules (DDMs) using the SQL Services function of the Natural SYSDDM utility.
-  **Dynamic and Static SQL Support** Internal handling of dynamic statements, creation and execution of static DBRMs, mixed dynamic/static mode, and application plan switching in the various supported environments.
-  **Statements and System Variables** Special considerations on Natural DML statements, Natural SQL statements and Natural system variables with DB2. In addition, the Natural for DB2 enhanced error handling is discussed.
-  **Natural Stored Procedures and UDFs** Processing Natural stored procedures and Natural user-defined functions (UDFs).
-  **Interface Subprograms** Several Natural and non-Natural subprograms to be used for various purposes.
-  **Natural File Server for DB2** Description of the Natural File Server in the various supported environments.
-  **Environment-Specific Considerations** Special considerations on the various environments supported by Natural for DB2.